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Stonewall Jackson
Training School



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Information
Concerning the
Stonewall Jackson
Training School

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By J. W. VANHOY

(1920)

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PURPOSE, SCOPE, RULES, AND NEEDS OF THE SCHOOL.

The many inquiries that come into the Superintendent's office from parents and others, seeking information about the School, make the issuing of this little book a necessity. From the many questions asked we learn that there are many well informed people who do not know the purpose of the institution.

How Created.

The Jackson Training School, as it is commonly called, is a State institution and is maintained largely by the State of North Carolina in the same manner that it supports other charitable and penal institutions, which is supplemented largely by The King's Daughters, and donations from public spirited citizens.

The School was legally authorized and created by the legislature of 1907 and its powers and duties set forth in Chapter 509 of the Public Laws of 1907, as amended by Chapter 955 of The Public Laws of 1907.

Purpose.

The purpose of the School is quite clear-

ly set forth in the Preamble to Chapter 509 Pub. Laws, 1907, which reads as follows:

“Whereas, it appears to this General Assembly that there are in this State many youths between the ages of seven and sixteen years who violate the criminal laws, and that while such youths should be detained and punished and taught the doctrines, of religion, good morals and how to work, it would be to the best interest of such youths and expedient that they be not associated with older and more hardened criminals.” Section five further states; *“That all inmates shall, if possible, be taught the precepts of the Holy Bible, good moral conduct, how to work and to be industrious.”*

Management.

The school is under the control of a Board of Trustees, consisting of fifteen members, a portion of whom are to be appointed by the Governor so long as the State appropriates not less than \$5000 to the maintenance of the School. The remainder of the Trustees are elected by the Board and vacancies filled as provided in Chapter, 509, Sec., 6 Public Laws 1907:

Superintendent And His Staff.

The direct management of The School is delegated to a Superintendent, elected

by the Board of Trustees. The Superintendent lives at the institution and has direct supervision of all the affairs of the School. He is authorized to employ a staff of competent assistants.

Authority Over Inmates.

The Superintendent is vested with the same authority over the boys committed to the care of the school that "a parent under the law has over his own child." Section 14 provides that all children "Shall be instructed in such rudimentary branches of useful knowledge as may be suited to their various ages and capacities. They shall be taught such useful trades and such manual training as the board may direct."

The School, therefore, is open only to boys of the state, under 16 years of age who have been convicted of some violation of the criminal law and who have been legally committed by a judge or other presiding officer of a criminal court.

Section 2, Public Laws of 1907, says;

"Said Trustees may in their discretion receive therein such delinquent and criminal children under the age of sixteen years as may be sent or committed thereto under any order or commitment by the Judges of the Superior courts or the Records or other presiding officers of the city or criminal courts, and shall have the

sole right and authority to keep, restrain and control them during their minority, or until such time as they shall deem proper for their discharge, under such proper and humane rules and regulations as may be adopted by said trustees."

It will be observed that the question of the reception of boys even after they have been committed to the school is in the discretion of the authorities of the institution, which authority in practice is exercised by the Superintendent. Also the matter of the parole or discharge of boys is vested in the same authorities and exercised in the same way. The law authorized the detention and control of the boys committed here during their minority, if such is deemed best for such boys.

Parents and officers of the law who wish to secure admission for boys at the Training School should observe the following points carefully:

Age Limits.

1. If a boy has reached his sixteenth birthday, he cannot be entered. This is prohibited by law and the authorities of the School have no discretion in the matter. Some attempts have been made to conceal the age of boys sent here, and sad to say, sometimes officers of the law seem to have been party to the falsification of the ages of boys sent here. The truth always comes out here and we are forced to avoid dealing with such

people. The school can hope to do little for a boy who comes here coached by his parents or by an officer to keep his true age concealed. On account of such cases, we now require a form of commitment wherein a boy's age is "found as a fact" by the court to be "under sixteen years."

How Entered.

2. No boy can be entered here in any way other than that provided by law; viz: The boy must be duly tried in a criminal court and found guilty of a violation of the criminal law and be committed to The Jackson Training School, according to the law creating the School, Chapter 509, Public Laws of 1907.

Not a School For Feeble Minded.

We have many appeals from parents, pastors, business and professional men and women, asking if a boy cannot be sent here "without any publicity" etc. Others wish to enter incorrigible boys who have not violated the law, and often their parents offer to pay tuition, etc.

Others have boys who are mentally deficient, and we are appealed to for help to bring a hope to these unfortunate boys. We have no equipment whatever for the treatment of any except intellectually normal boys. No provision is made for any boy except the "criminally delinquent" or, in other words the boy who has violated the law and would have to be punished in jail, on the chain gang, in

the State Prison, with older criminals, or turned loose on his community again, either course often being bad indeed for the boy.

Not a Prison Nor Penal Institution.

3. Boys should not be sent here as a punishment for their infractions of the law. The school is not a penal institution and does not attempt to administer punishment to a boy for his past wrongs. They are left behind him forever, so far as the Training School is concerned. The school tries to encourage him to lead a clean life, mentally, morally and physically; to form correct habits, keep his word, be obedient and industrious; train his mind, learn a trade, obey God and be a man. His record as an inmate of the School is what makes him a good or a bad "prospect" in the eyes of the officers of the institution.

Vacancies.

4. Boys should never be sent here nor even committed until a full and frank correspondence is had with the superintendent. This is necessary for two main reasons. First, room at the school is always applied for far in advance of an opening, and those who bring boys without communicating with the superintendent will almost invariable have to take them back until arrangements can be made. Second: We must know the

class of boys who come here, and the matter of their reception being discretionary with the authorities of the School, we would rarely ever receive a boy about whom we knew nothing until he is delivered here. This precaution is necessary for the protection of the institution against impositions by dishonest people, as well as to protect the inhabitants of the school from contagious diseases, etc. that might be introduced in such way. As the institution grows we find it necessary to use more caution along these lines.

School, Shop, Farm.

The institution, being a "manual training and industrial school," as well as providing for a rudimentary course of instruction, each boy is sent to school four hours every day in the year except Sundays. At present the population is divided into two sections, a forenoon and an afternoon section. Half the boys are in school while the other half are engaged in manual labor. There are two sections each for the Print Shop and for the Wood Shop, also a forenoon and an afternoon section for farm work, two sections for work on the garden and the grounds, the sections being so arranged that every boy can be in the school room half of each day. All work by the boys is done under the direction of a foreman or officer, the plan being that every boy

is under the immediate care of an officer at all times.

Cottages.

At six o'clock in Summer and earlier in Winter the boys go to their cottages, 30 to each building, where they are under the care of a competent cottage keeper and matron, until 7:45 next morning, when work is again resumed. Cottages have baths, library, sitting room, dormitory, kitchen, pantry, and officers' quarters. Boys retire at 8 o'clock and arise at 6:45. A number of "House Boys" are designated to assist the matrons in preparing the meals and keeping house. Devotional services are held daily in each cottage and at the school room. Sunday School is held for the boys each Sunday, and lectures are given frequently on helpful topics by prominent ministers and others.

Course of Study.

The course of study given in our school room is practically the same as is given in the public Schools of the State. The work done by boys in school is thorough and practical, a competent teacher having charge of the school all the time.

Printing.

The printing department is up-to-

date and in charge of an efficient director and foreman. The boys set the type for The Uplift, which is issued monthly, and are taught the printing business quite thoroughly.

Wood-work.

In the wood shop the boys learn the use of tools and how to make useful articles of furniture. A number of machines are operated by the boys and a competent foreman instructs them in the principles of the wood-workman's trade.

Farm.

The aim is to conduct the farm scientifically and the boys are taught practical farming and how to care for live stock.

Business Training.

From time to time a boy is placed in the business office of the institution and given elementary instruction in practical business methods. A number of boys have been taught shorthand and typewriting. The school should be equipped to give a complete commercial course.

Grounds.

The grounds and buildings are kept neat and are beautified as our funds and time permit. The boys take delight in helping with this work.

RULES OF THE SCHOOL.

For the best interest of the boys and to facilitate the discipline of the school the following rules have been adopted, to which the attention of parents, friends, and relatives of the boys is invited and their co-operation requested in the observance of the same.

Visits By Boys.

The boys are not allowed to leave the school to visit relatives or friends under any circumstances before one year has elapsed since the entrance of said boy into the School. This rule may be suspended by the Superintendent in cases of death or very serious sickness of a boy's immediate family. After one year, if a boy's record justifies it, short visits are sometimes allowed him when parents assume the responsibility and expense of his trip and his return to the School.

Visits to Boys.

To a limited extent, not to exceed one visit a month, parents and relatives may visit the boys at the School, preferably on Sunday. The Superintendent should always be notified of any contemplated visit to a boy. The school is not prepared to entertain visitors but accommodations can usually be secured in the

immediate neighborhood at moderate prices.

Correspondence.

Boys are allowed and encouraged to write two regular letters a month to their families. The letters are written under the supervision of the teacher or cottage officer and are inspected before being mailed. Boys receive letters from parents and friends, all of which are inspected by an officer before delivery to the boys. All objectionable communications are withheld from the boys. All boys who are able to do so are expected to pay for their stamps.

Spending Money.

Boys are allowed to have a small amount of money to be spent by them under the direction of the cottage officers. The funds are kept by a custodian and purchases for the boys made by him on the order of the boys approved by the proper officer.

Presents, Etc.

Parents and friends may send packages to the boys prepaid and in care of the Superintendent. The institution furnishes uniforms for the boys both for work and for dress. Hats and caps for every day wear, union suits, shirts, socks, and such small articles of wearing apparel may be received by the boys from parents or friends. Donations of such ar-

ticles to the use of all the boys are always accepted with thanks.

Donations of Wearing Apparel.

One public spirited citizen of Greensboro has given the material for work uniforms for the boys since the School was founded.

Sickness.

There has been no serious illness at the School since its beginning, but in case of any serious illness or accident to a boy his parents will be notified at once. In case of serious illness in a boy's family, the Superintendent should be notified and not the boy. The information will be promptly communicated to the boy in the best manner possible. If all the circumstances are known to the superintendent a boy may be allowed to visit his family in extreme cases of illness or death.

Discipline.

The discipline of the school is semi-military and is strict. The policy being mild firmness. Most of the boys who are sent to us are said to be incorrigible and unmanagable by their parents. This condition in a boy is soon overcome here by the system used in the government of the boys. A boy soon finds himself doing involuntarily what the other boys are doing. Many boys who are classed as incorrigibles before coming here be-

come respectful and obedient without the use of corporal punishment. Punishment is inflicted when necessary to enforce discipline or to correct evil habits in a boy. This punishment is almost entirely inflicted in the presence of the other boys and always in the right spirit by the officers. However, we find that the steady occupation and regular habits of the boys are the best means of obtaining discipline. No idleness nor slothfulness is allowed. The boys must eat and sleep regularly and keep clean. When these rules are enforced together with steady work which proves interesting and instructive to the boys their government becomes much easier than their former acquaintances would suspect. The officers learn boy nature, and the privileges and honors that a boy prizes are allowed him when he shows himself worthy of them. A boy more than any other being in the world is influenced by environment.

Daily Programme.

5:30 a. m. House boys arise and report to their matrons for work toward preparing breakfast.

6:45. Rising Bell. All boys arise, make up their beds and prepare for breakfast.

7:15. Breakfast in all departments.

7:45. Work and School Bell. Half the boys march to the school room and the other half take up manual labor on farm, grounds, in wood-shop, etc. A

section goes to the printshop and work till noon.

11:30. Dinner Bell. All boys report to the cottages and prepare for dinner.

12:00 m. Dinner. Rest one hour.

1. p. m. Work and School Bell. Sections reverse from study and school work to manual labor. There are a morning and an afternoon section in every department.

4:30. Recess School Bell. Military drill and athletics to 6 p. m.

6 p. m. Supper Bell. All boys report to their cottages for supper. Reading, games, music, etc., in the sitting rooms until 8 p. m.

8 p. m. Retiring Bell. Boys of each cottage prepare for retiring under direction of cottage officer. Devotional exercises and prayers are previously held. All boys say their prayers and then repeat the Lord's Prayer in concert in their Dormitory.

Frequently the whole school takes athletics on Saturday afternoons. The Sundays are spent at church and Sabbath School in the forenoon and reading, strolling or talking in the afternoon.

Funds Limited.

While the school is built and supported by the State and by donations from The King's Daughters and others, and no tuition or other charges are made on parents for the care of their sons, still

the institution is always more or less cramped financially and can only heed a very small per cent of the many calls for "the life line" to erring boys.

Tuition.

To those desiring to pay tuition and expenses of boys here, we would say that while we cannot make such charges yet we should certainly welcome your donation, however small, to the equipment or maintenance of the institution. Such donations from the noble women and big-hearted men of the State have made the school a possibility and its future usefulness depends largely on the continuance of such beneficent deeds.

The Uplift.

The boys publish a magazine every month, The Uplift, which carries reading matter of interest to every one and especially to boys and their parents. The subscription price is One Dollar the year. A campaign is now being waged to raise enough subscriptions to enable the school to take care of fifty more boys. We are asking all who will to send a club of 5 names and 5 dollars for the paper one year. The responses are gratifying indeed and since the campaign was started in May we have received several hundred dollars. Will you join the company, A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. Twelve in all. We are now organizing Company C. One hundred club man-

agers who are asked to send 5 names each making 500 for the company. If you want to help a great cause and are unable to make a donation, this campaign is your door of opportunity.

Usefulness of The School to Society.

The work of the school thus far shows that there is much hope for many of the boys of our State, who are being pushed into the gutter by their invironment, and that the field of usefulness for this institution is large indeed. Saving a boy from himself and the evils of his environment is not only saving his county and State the expense of prosecuting and punishing him during a criminal career, but is saving to the State a citizen and to the Great Cause of Righteousness and Usefulness, a servant.

Some Things the Boys Need.

Book cases and reading tables for each of the three cottages.

A piano or organ each for Cottages Nos. 2 and 3.

Sewing machine with attachments for Cottages No. 1. and 3.

Single bed blankets for 100 Boys.

Sheets and counterpanes and pillow cases. Books for boys' libraries, pictures and portraits for boys' sitting and reading rooms.

Sample Judgment and Commitment.

(The following sample Judgement, Order and Commitment comply with the Supreme Court decision, (In Re Watson 157 N. C., 340) in regard to the admission of boys into the Jackson Training School and are sent you for your convenience.)

State of North Carolina In the . . . Court
County of 19 ..

State
vs. } JUDGMENT
(John Doe)

This cause coming on to be heard before Judge Presiding and having been heard, and the court having made an investigation of the facts in connection with said case, and it appearing to the court and the court having found the following facts:

- 1, That the said John Doe has been duly convicted of the charge of
- 2, That the said John Doe is under 16 years of age.
- 3, That the parents of the said John Doe are unable properly to care for and control him for the following reasons;
- 4. That notice of the pendency and trial of this case has been served on and the parents of the said John Doe.
- 5. That it is best for the said John Doe and this community in which he has been convicted that he should be sentenced to The Stonewall Jackson Manual Training and Industrial School.

WHEREFORE, It is ordered and adjudged by the Court that the said John Doe be committed to The Stonewall Jack-

son Manual Training and Industrial School, to the end that the Trustees or other governing agencies thereof may keep, restrain and control him during his minority or until such time as they shall deem proper for his discharge, under such proper and humane rules and regulations as may be adopted by the said Trustees, in accordance with the provisions of Chapters 509 and 955 of the Public Laws of North Carolina, of 1907.

This the day of 19 . . .
Sate of North Carolina, In the . . . court
County of 19 . .

State
vs.
John Doe

}

COMMITMENT

To the Superintendent or keeper of
The Stonewall Jackson Manual Training and
Industrial School, Concord, North Carolina,
GREETING;

WHEREAS, John Doe was at the
term of The Court of
County adjudged guilty of the crime of . . .
and was ordered committed to The Stone-
wall Jackson Manual Training and Indus-
trial School, as will more fully appear from
copy of the Judgement and Order made
by the Court at said term hereto attached
and made apart of this Commitment.

You are, therefore, authorized and em-
powered to receive the said John Doe in
the said Stonewall Jackson Manual Train-
ing and Industrial School, to the end that
the Trustees or other governing agencies
thereof may keep, restrain and control him
during his minority or until such time as
they deem proper for his discharge, under
such proper and humane rules and regula-
tions as may be adopted by the said Trus-
tees, in accordance with the provisions of

Chapters 509 and 955, Public Laws of 1907.

The said John Doe will be delivered to you by

This the . . . day of 19-

. Clerk Superior Court.

NOTE: In Chapter 509, Sec. 2, Public Laws., 1907; it is provided; "The Trustees may in their discretion receive therein such delinquent and criminal children under the age of 16 years as may be sent or committed thereto under any order or commitment by the Judges of the Superior Courts or the Recorders or other presiding officers of the city or criminal courts." The above forms may be changed when the proceeding is had in some court other than the Superior Court.



**Printed by the Boys of the
Jackson Training School.**



OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL.

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Supt. | Chas. E. Boger |
| Principal of School, | S. I. Parker |
| Director Ptg. Dept., | J. C. Fisher |
| Foreman Wood Shop, | A. R. Johnson |

COTTAGE OFFICERS.

Cottage No. 1.

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| S. I. Parker, | Officer |
| H. E. Isenhour, | Officer |
| Mrs. Gertie Fox, | Matron |

Cottage No. 2.

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| J. C. Fisher, | Officer |
| M. R. Kizer | Officer |
| Miss Lula Templeton, | Matron |

Admr. Building.

| | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Mrs. A. R. Johnson, | Matron |
| Miss Emily Templeton, | Matron |

Farm Officers.

D. A. Corzine, T. V. Talbirt, M. R.
Kizer, J. W. Sides.

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